

12419 16th Ave S  
Seattle WA 98168-2249  
September 22, 2000

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Food & Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061  
Rockville MD 20852

Gentlemen:

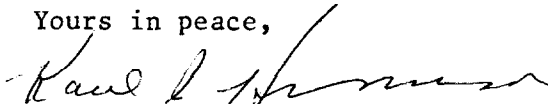
I am writing to oppose any attempt to change (weaken) the current FDA requirements for irradiated foods.

Alternative terms for describing irradiated foods such as cold pasteurization or electronic pasteurization would be deceiving to consumers. Pasteurization is exposing food to elevated temperature, not ionizing radiation. There is no better term to describe irradiation than the term "irradiated."

I urge you to remove all labeling instructions from the final appropriations bill coming out of the conference committee and let the current FDA labeling requirements for irradiated food stand as they are. Irradiated foods are sold internationally and need to be honestly labeled as such for international commerce.

Consumers want straight-forward, prominent labeling of irradiated foods by the use of the term "irradiated." A free market depends on truthful consumer information.

Yours in peace,

  
Karl I. Hennum

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